2641. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will ihe Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to stale:

(a) whether the Additional M.S. of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital. New Delhi retired very recently;

(b) if so, whether the eharge of the Additional M.S. was given to a Junior Doctor ignoring the right of Senior Doctors who are in the seniority list; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and correctly steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALIM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Qeustion does not arise.

Cases of smuggling of gold

2642. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 950 given in the Rajya Sabha on 23rd July, 1996 and state:

(a) the details of the cases pertaining to gold smuggling that have been detected during this year at different International Airports in the country; and

(b) the action initiated in each case?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Tourism Development Scheme of Bihar

2643. SHRI GYAN RANJAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tourism development schemes of Bihar are pending with the Government; and

(b) if so, the progress made so far alongwith the financial assistance proposed to be provided for these projects?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism, Government of India in consultation with the State Government officials have identified four projects amounting to Rs. 150 lakhs for Central Financial Assistance during 1996-97. The funds are released on receipt of detailed project proposals.

स्टेट बैंक आफ इंदौर में घपलों संबंधी मामलों के संबंध में संसद सदस्यों से प्राप्त पत्र/अभ्यावेदन/ज्ञापन

2644. श्री शिव चरण सिंह: क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) सरकार को पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान स्टेट बैंक आफ इंदौर की शाखाओं में घपलों तथा इसके कर्मचारियों से संबंधित मामलों के संबंध में संसद सदस्यों से कितने पत्र/अभ्यावेदन/ज्ञापन प्राप्त हुए;

(ख) इनमें से वर्ष-वार कितने मामलों में पावती या अन्तिम उत्तर अब तक भेजे गए हैं;

(ग) कितने पत्रों का उत्तर दिया जाना अभी शेष है;

(घ) कितने मामले अब तक निपटा दिये गए हैं; और

(ङ) कितने मामलों में जांच पूरी न होने के कारण अन्तिम उत्तर दिया जाना शेष है?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री पी॰ चिदम्बरम): (क) से (ङ) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Security measures for RRB Employees

2645. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the security measures available to the staff of Regional Rural Banks during remittances;

(b) whether life of the staff members are insured against the risk involved during their outside duty lor remittances of cash;

(c) the number of staff members of Regional Rural Banks who have been injured and/ lost their live.s due to attack by dacoits/robbers/anti-social elements/ extremists during the year 1995-96;

(d) the incentives and compensation available to the staff of Regional Rural Banks for showing bravery against Robbers etc; and

(c) in how many cases in which staff of Regional Rural Bank involved in facing attacks from anti-social elements etc., are yet to be given incentive/special leave/ compensation?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) has icporied that there have been some instances ot ducoitics in branches of Regional Rural Banks (RREs) in the recent past.

Reserve Bank of lndia (RBI), by a circular issued in 1980, had inter-alia advised the RRBs to arrange for full insurance cover of cash-in-safe, ir counters and in transit, as well as other valuables against the risk of fire, theft, burglary etc.

By a circular issued in 1985, Government had advised RRBs to identify the branches located in high risk and disturbance prone pockets in consultation with sponsor banks and request the district administrations to provide the necessary personnel and make necessary arrangements. The State Governments have also been requested to provide the necessary protection by posting of guards and patrolling. These instructions were reiterated in 1991. Further, NABARD has also advised RRBs that armed guards may be posted in identified vulnerable branches of RRBs.

(c) and (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of ihe House to the extent available.

(d) In case of bank employees and customers/members of public, who actively resist bank robberies and terrorists attack on bank, the bank may consider a cash reward not exeeding Rs. 50,000/- and an out of turn promotion subject to fulfilment of eligibility or grant three advance increment on a permanent basis. All expenses on treatment of the injury and hospitalisation of the victims including bank employees etc. shall be borne by the bank.

Fraud in Janpath Hotel

2646. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fraud involving Rs. 20 lakhs was detected in Janpath Hotel a unit of 1TDC, by its officials'

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government against the officials involved in the fraud and to prevent such recurrence?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During reconciliation of cash control accounts for the year 1995-96 in respect of Janpath Hotel some financial irregularities were noticed. The matter has since been investigate* by the Vigilance' Division and irregularities amounting to Rs. 19.50 lakhs have been found.

(c) One official has since been suspended and disciplinary action against the concerned officials is being initiated as per ITDC Conduct, Discipline and Appeal Rules. Preventive measures being